



VIV BUSBY . . .
a little disappointing
despite his goal

Wycombe Wanderers 5, Bromley 0

WYCOMBE WANDERERS launched their assault on Enfield's Isthmian League title, with a five-goal salvo that sank their meagre visitors almost without trace at Loakes Park on Saturday.

But it was only the first of many salvos, and Bromley were practically "sitting ducks" in any case.

Under a heavy downpour, Wanderers had unquestioned mastery. So dominant did they become, that everyone from half back to full-back deserted his post at some stage or other to give added weight of numbers in attack.

Let us however get things in their true perspective.

Bromley left winger, John Mears, alone seemed a danger, to the security of John Maskell's goal. And even he hit a brick wall when faced by the expertly "marshalled" back-row of John Delaney.

Up against a trickier set of forwards, the Wycombe defence would not have found time for such "luxuries" as joining in attacks.

Indeed, in competitive football, it has not as yet received a reliable test of efficiency.

Manager Brian Lee plumped

By

Mike Whitesman

for very much the team on form in making his selection.

Included were three of his four signees—Delaney, Bobby Hatt and Geoff Anthony, all of whom did as much as any towards this victory. Indeed the latter two both bowed impressively into Isthmian League football with a goal apiece after the interval.

Also "in" was young—and on Saturday, infuriating — Viv Busby, who fell several levels below the form he had shown against Wimbledon in mid-week, possibly because of the more treacherous ground surface.

That meant "out" went Keith Samuels and Barry Baker, two of last year's regulars. White oft-time first teamer, Vin Faulkner was also kept in reserve, as was the slightly injured fourth new man, Ken Ward.

Although many of Wanderers traits—both good and bad—were in evidence, there was plenty to encourage Wycombe's followers.

The extraordinarily high work-rate of Tony Horseman particularly stood out, hardly veiled by the continual rain curtain.

Anthony, despite receiving some rough attention from Bromley right-back, Bridge, used enough speed to suggest he will play an important part in seeking out new channels of attack in the coming weeks.

But then, there lay perhaps the most encouraging sign of all—the host of variations employed by Wanderers on an attacking theme.

Whether it was an "easy" afternoon or not, the fact remains that of five goals scored, each one had its own distinct characteristic.

Too often in the past, the usual means of goalscoring, such as Len Worley's "feeders" from the right wing, or the sudden pounces of Tony Horseman, have broken down somewhere along the line.

Now, however, with Anthony threatening to put the left flank back on Wycombe's map, and Hatt, alongside Julian Lailey in midfield, throwing added weight through the centre, supply lines of attack are no longer in such danger of drying up.

Wanderers quickly began buzzing around Bromley's goal-mouth, but it took 32 minutes for Busby to make the first breakthrough, and then only at the second attempt.

Three minutes later, the guts were ripped from the visitors network by a scintillating 30 yard "bullet" from Tony Horseman who might well have already scored the best goal that will be seen at Loakes Park this season.

While Bromley fielding four newcomers, and bringing substitute C. Brown on for Farmer in the 57th minute, were finding out the hard way that bustle and brawn don't win matches, both Busby and Horseman could consider themselves robbed of penalties in the second half.

It mattered little though, as Worley, playing with authority, "made" the next two for Wycombe. A free kick latched straight onto a course for Hatt to head in on 66 minutes, and eight minutes later, a Worley shot banged off a post, and deflected off a defender, with Horseman on hand to drive past 'keeper Jensen.

Anthony claimed a deserved debut goal just 60 seconds from time, chipping casually over Jensen's head, when the ball emerged on the blind-side of a defensive tussle.

Wycombe: J. Maskell; L. Temel, C. Gale; I. Rundle, J. Delaney, R. Hall; L. Worley, J. Lailey, V. Busby, A. Horseman, Anthony. Sub: B. Baker (not used).